

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 3-11 and 15-31 are in the application. Claims 3, 4, and 15 are independent. Claims 3-4, 9-11, 15, 18-23, and 26 are currently amended. Claims 1-2 and 12-14 are cancelled. Claims 29-31 are new. Claims 5-8, 16-17, 24-25, and 27-28 are original.

The amendments herein are made in the interest of expediting prosecution and without prejudice to the Applicants' ability to reintroduce any cancelled subject matter in this or other applications.

The Applicants note that the Examiner indicated claims 3-8, 15-17, and 26-28 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 3, 4, and 15 have been rewritten in independent form and, thus, claims 3-8, 16-17 and 26-28 are allowable.

The Applicants have also taken this opportunity to clarify the relationship between the impeller and the reduced portion in claim 4.

Claims 9-11 and 18-25 have been amended to depend from allowable claim 3 and, thus, are allowable.

New claims 29-31 are similar to prior claims 2-4, while being dependent on allowable claim 26. Thus, claims 29-31 are allowable.

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. The Applicants therefore respectfully request the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that the objections and rejections be withdrawn. The Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

Favourable reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached at their office by telephone at (703) 415-2555. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully Submitted,
DOWELL & DOWELL, P.C.

By: _____

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